

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ZAGREB 00309 070002Z  
ACTION H-03

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-----025371 071509Z /14

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FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5135  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OREP (LES ASPIN)  
SUBJECT: CODEL ASPIN VISIT TO ZAGREB APRIL 5

1. CONGRESSMAN ASPIN SPENT A 24-HOUR PERIOD IN ZAGREB CROWDED WITH MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT OF THE CROATIAN PRESIDENCY JAKOV BLAZEVIC, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE SABOR KAMENKO MARKOVIC, PRESIDENT OF THE SABOR'S COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND STATE SECURITY EDWARD CENCIC, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE ECONOMIC INSTITUTE, PROFESSOR DRAGOMIR VOGNIC. AT DINNER HE MET WITH PRESIDENT OF THE CROATIAN SOCIALIST ALLIANCE IVO MARGAN, WHO WILL NEXT MONTH BECOME A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL; DIRECTOR OF PODRAVKA, PAVLE GAZI, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF LCC PRESIDUM; AND PRESIDENT OF THE SABOR'S COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS VERA GEROVAC-BLAZEVIC. ASPIN ALSO MET AT LUNCH THE DEAN OF POLITICAL SCIENCE FACULTY, PROFESSOR DUSAN BILANDZIC, A CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THE LCC. ALL THE YUGOSLAVS WERE RELATIVELY INFORMATIVE EVEN IF THE DELEGATE SYSTEM AND THE WAY THE ASSEMBLY WORKS WERE NOT MADE PERFECTLY CLEAR. THE YUGOSLAVS THEMSELVES HAD DIFFICULTY IN EXPLAINING THEM.

2. THE MEETING WITH BLAZEVIC WAS LAID ON ONLY A FEW HOURS BEFORE ASPIN ARRIVED IN ZAGREB. DURING THE HOUR-LONG MEETING, BLAZEVIC SPOKE AT GREAT LENGTH ABOUT YUGOSLAVS' IMPRESSION OF  
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TITO'S RECENT VISIT TO THE U.S. HE SAID THAT CARTER SEEMS TO HAVE INTRODUCED A NEW APPROACH IN FOREIGN POLICY, OPENING UP POSSIBILITIES FOR MOVEMENT TOWARDS RESOLVING LONGSTANDING INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS. BLAZEVIC APPLAUDED THE NEW ATTENTION BEING GIVEN TO AFRICA, SYMBOLIZED BY CARTER'S RECENT TRIP TO THAT CONTINENT. BLAZEVIC SPOKE WARMLY IN FAVOR OF DETENTE WITHOUT WHICH, HE SAID, THE SMALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD WILL BE

THE FIRST TO SUFFER. WHEN ASPIN ASKED ABOUT THE APPARENT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SOVIET AND U.S. CONCEPT OF DETENTE -- THE AMERICANS THINKING THAT DETENTE WAS ALL-ENCOMPASSING AND NOT CONFINED JUST TO SALT, AND THE SOVIETS SEEMING TO TAKE THE VIEW THAT OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD WERE EXEMPT FROM THE CONCEPT OF DETENTE -- BLAZEVIC ACKNOWLEDGED THIS DIFFERENCE. HE OFFERED NO PALLIATIVES OR SOLUTIONS BUT TOOK THE POSITION THAT THE U.S. SHOULD TAKE THE LONG-TERM VIEW IN ITS EFFORTS TO INSPIRE THE THIRD WORLD WITH WESTERN IDEALS AND ASPIRATIONS WHICH IN THE LONG RUN WILL BE MORE POWERFUL THAN THE FORCE OF ARMS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE DIFFICULTY OF CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, I.E. THE HORN OF AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT URGED THAT THE U.S. LOOK PATIENTLY AT PROBLEMS FROM OTHER VANTAGE POINTS WHILE LOOKING FOR NEW APPROACHES TO LONGSTANDING PROBLEMS. HE READILY INDICATED THAT MANY OF THE PROBLEMS ARE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT AND COMPLICATED.

3. THE TONE AS WELL AS THE CONTENT OF ASPIN'S MEETINGS WITH CROATIAN OFFICIALS CLEARLY REFLECTED THE SUCCESSFUL MEETING BETWEEN TITO AND CARTER.

4. CONGRESSMAN ASPIN CLEARED THIS CABLE IN DRAFT. KAISER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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